

REMARKS

In the above-identified Office Action, the Examiner allowed claims 25, 26, and 36, which were written in dependent form. Applicant has rewritten the claims and has endeavored to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In order to make the rewritten claims more readable, they do not include the exact wording of claims 25, 26, and 36 along with the claims upon which they depend. The rewritten claims are new independent claims 51, 52, and 53 respectively. Applicant respectfully requests Examiner to allow these claims.

Applicant has added independent claims 54, 55, 56, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64. Claim 54 includes a portion of claim 12 along with the feature of “mechanical damping elements”. Claim 55 includes a portion of claim 12 along with the features of claim 31. Claim 56 includes limitations from claim 41 along with the feature “a movable damping element”. Claim 59 includes limitations from claim 45 along with the placing of a “vibration damping element”. Claim 60 includes limitations from claim 46 along with the placing of a “vibration damping element”. Claim 61 includes limitations from claim 47 along with the placing of a “vibration damping element”. Claim 62 includes limitations from claim 48 along with a “movable damping element”. Claim 63 includes limitations from claim 49 along with placing a “vibration damping element”. Claim 64 includes limitations from claim 50 along with placing a “vibration damping element”. Applicant respectfully requests Examiner to allow these claims.

The Examiner objected to claim 37 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(c). Applicant has amended claim 37 to alleviate that objection.

The Examiner rejected claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph for use of the term “spherical-cap-like”. Applicant respectfully traverses that rejection. Applicant has amended claim 12, specifically amending “spherical-cap-like” to “spherical”, and respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 1-10 have been rejected as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 3,088,253 to Lipkins ("Lipkins"). Applicant respectfully traverses that rejection. In the Examiner's "Reasons for Allowance", the Examiner stated that "the prior art does not teach nor fairly suggest a cutting element of the type disclosed above wherein the damping elements are arranged displaceably in the radial direction of the partial-spherical shell." Independent claims 1 and 8 have been amended to include the step "placing a vibration damping element on the circumference of a separating body and adjusting its radial position to lessen vibration." Because, *inter alia*, Lipkin does not teach that step, independent claims 1 and 8, and necessarily their dependent claims, are not rendered obvious. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

Claims 12-14, 17-24, 27-35, and 38 have been rejected as being obvious over Lipkins. Independent claim 12 claims first and second lenses that can be produced simultaneously. Lipkins discloses that from a body 14 material to be cut can create an inside and outside spherical surface. This is not a disclosure of two independent lenses. Because Lipkins does not teach production of two lenses simultaneously, independent claim 12, and necessarily its dependent claims (13-14, 17-24, 27-35, and 38) are not rendered obvious. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

Specific dependent claims 21-24 have been rejected as being obvious over Lipkins in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,292,237 to Fisher ("Fisher"). Applicant respectfully traverses that rejection. Lipkins does not disclose mechanical damping elements or a vibration-damping construction. The tools disclosed by Fisher are absolutely different from the separating body with the cutting elements according to the claimed invention. Fisher only discloses coating with damping material. Fisher, at col. 2, lines 57-61. Applicant is not claiming coating with damping material, but instead "mechanical damping elements". Therefore, there is no motivation to combine Lipkins and Fisher, and even if there was, they combined do not render applicant's claimed invention obvious. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

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Claims 41-50 have been rejected as being obvious over Lipkins in view of Fisher. Applicant respectfully traverses that rejection. The Examiner made no specific rejection for claims 41-50. However, applicant notes that Lipkins does not render the claims obvious, there is no motivation to combine Lipkins with Fisher, and even if combined, Lipkins and Fisher do not render applicant's claims obvious. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw this objection.

In this amendment, applicant has added 11 independent claims, cancelled 3 dependent claims, and added 3 dependent claims for a net add of 11 independent claims. For the addition of these claims, Applicant includes herewith a check in the amount of \$2,750.00. Applicant believes that no additional fee should be required. However, should a fee be required, the Commissioner is requested and authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account 23-0920

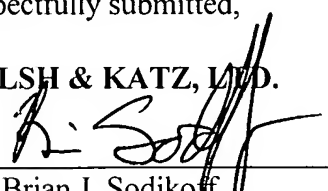
Applicant hereby requests reconsideration and reexamination thereof.

With the above amendments and remarks, this application is considered ready for allowance and Applicant earnestly solicits an early notice of same. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of the subject application, he is respectfully requested to call the undersigned at the below-listed number.

Respectfully submitted,

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